a store for storing at least one routing rule for controlling said routing means, wherein a routing rule comprises a specification of supplier deliverables and an identifier for a corresponding destination;

comparison means for comparing a specification of user requirements contained in a received user request message with a specification of supplier deliverables contained in a stored routing rule and, in dependence upon the result of said comparison, identifying a corresponding destination for the forwarding of said user request message; and

forwarding means for transmitting, by means of said communications network, a received user request message to a destination identified by said comparison means.

Claim 9, line 1, delete "or Claim 8".

Claim 10, line 1, delete "any one of claims 7 to 9" and insert -- claim 7 --.

Claim 11, line 1, delete "any one of claims 7 to 10" and insert -- claim 7 --.

Claim 14, line 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 6" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 18, line 1, delete "or Claim 17".

REMARKS

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.